

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated February 4, 2005, the Office acknowledged that claims 1-13 are withdrawn from further consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. Claims 14-29 were variously rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Hinks, U.S. Patent No. 3,696,655 and further as being indefinite pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 112 as set forth in the Office Action.

Applicant has amended the claims as provided herewith, and presented new claims consistent with the agreement reached with the Examiner of Record during the most recent telephone interview which is summarized below.

TELEPHONE INTERVIEW

On March 17, 2005, a telephone interview was conducted with Examiner Christopher Harmon to discuss proposed new claim 30 as provided herewith and to discuss the present Office Action and the rejections as provided by the Office during the most recent Office Action.

Applicant's counsel and the Examiner of Record reached an agreement that claim 30 as provided herewith was distinguishable over the Hinks reference and would be given favorable consideration by the Office. Applicant has further provided new claim 31 and further amended claims 14-29 variously to set forth the distinctions as discussed in the most recent telephone conference.

Applicant, by and through their counsel would like to thank Examiner Harmon for his courteous cooperation with respect to the conduct of this most recent interview.

Applicant has amended the claims to address the rejections put forward under 35 U.S.C. § 112 second paragraph. With respect to the rejection relative to claim 28 under 35

U.S.C. § 112 second paragraph, the Office should understand from the specification that the plurality of punches which are carried by the punch assembly are moveable from a position whereby they extend outwardly relative to the punch assembly, or further can be placed in a position whereby they are received internally of the punch assembly such that no aperture is formed in the underlying web of material when the punch assembly is moved into contact with the web in the workstation. Consequently, Applicant believes that claim 28 is not indefinite as currently written. Applicant would encourage the Office to telephone the attorneys in the event that the Office continues to be of the view that these claims are indefinite.

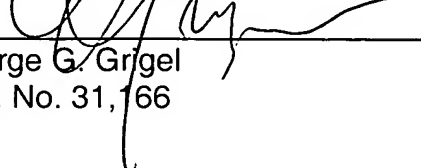
In view of the foregoing, it would appear that this application is now in condition for allowance and prompt Notice of Allowance of claims 14-31 is courteously respected in the Office's next action.

Applicant, by and through their counsel, would request that the Office telephone the attorneys in the event that a further telephone conference could expedite the prompt handling of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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